

## MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

### Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

May 24, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

Held via teleconference connection as permitted under the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, dated March 17, 2020 due to concerns of COVID-19 ("Executive Order").

Director Lee called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**Present:** Director Lee, Director Easton, Director Ishkanian, Director van Duinwyk, Director Powell. Chief Taylor and District Counsel Mark Manion were also present.

- 1. Public comment: Any person may address the Board at this time on any non-agenda matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Montecito Fire Protection District. (30 minutes total time allotted for this discussion.)**

There were no public comments at this meeting.

- 2. Receive presentation from Jeff Small, Capitol PFG Municipal Advisor, regarding Pension Obligation Bond funding option and recommendations. (Strategic Plan Goal 9)**

Jeff Small, Capitol PFG Municipal Advisor provided a power point presentation regarding Pension Obligation Bond funding option and recommendations.

- a. That the Board of Directors approve and authorize the Fire Chief to execute an agreement for legal services with Quint & Thimmig LLP to serve as the District's Bond Counsel for a Pension Obligation Bond.**

Motion to approve and authorize the Fire Chief to execute an agreement for legal services with Quint & Thimmig LLP to serve as the District's Bond Counsel for a Pension Obligation Bond made by Director Ishkanian, seconded by Director van Duinwyk. The Roll Call Vote was as follows:

Ayes: S. Easton, J. A. Powell, J. Ishkanian, P. van Duinwyk, M. Lee

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- b. That the Board of Directors approve and authorize the Fire Chief to execute an agreement for professional services with Hilltop Securities Inc. to serve as the District's Placement Agent for a Pension Obligation Bond.**

Motion to approve and authorize the Fire Chief to execute an agreement for professional services with Hilltop Securities Inc. to serve as the District's Placement Agent for a Pension Obligation Bond made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Ishkanian. The Roll Call Vote was as follows:

Ayes: S. Easton, J. A. Powell, J. Ishkanian, P. van Duinwyk, M. Lee

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- c. That the Board of Directors approve Resolution 2021-04, Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Bonds to Refund Certain Pension Obligation Bonds of the District, Approving the Form and Authorizing the Execution of a Trust Agreement, a Bond Purchase Agreement and a Supplemental Agreement and Authorizing Action Related Thereto.**

Motion to approve Resolution 2021-04, authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Bonds to Refund Certain Pension Obligation Bonds of the District, Approving the Form and Authorizing the Execution of a Trust Agreement, a Bond Purchase Agreement and a Supplemental Agreement and Authorizing Action Related Thereto made by Director Lee, seconded by Director van Duinwyk. The Roll Call Vote was as follows:

Ayes: S. Easton, J. A. Powell, J. Ishkanian, P. van Duinwyk, M. Lee

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- d. That the Board of Directors approve a payment of \$7.7 million to CalPERS to pay down the Pension Unfunded Accrued Liability, of which \$2,835,000 will be transferred from the Land and Building Fund (3653) to the General Fund (3650).**

Motion to approve a payment of \$7.7 million to CalPERS to pay down the Pension Unfunded Accrued Liability, of which \$2,835,000 will be transferred from the Land and Building Fund (3653) to the General Fund (3650) made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Ishkanian. The Roll Call Vote was as follows:

Ayes: S. Easton, J. A. Powell, J. Ishkanian, P. van Duinwyk, M. Lee

Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

**3. Report from the Finance Committee. (Strategic Plan Goal 9.1)**

**a. Receive budget development presentation and review the recommended Preliminary Budget for FY 2021-22.**

Chief Taylor and District Accountant Nahas provided a power point presentation regarding budget development and recommended Preliminary Budget for FY 2021-22. After discussion, Chief Taylor stated that he would meet with each Director one on one to further discuss the addition of 2 firefighters.

**b. Consider recommendation to approve March and April 2021 financial statements.**

Director van Duinwyk provided a report regarding the March and April 2021 financial statements. Motion made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Easton to approve the March and April 2021 financial statements. The Roll Call Vote was as follows:

Ayes: J. A. Powell, S. Easton, J. Ishkanian, P. van Duinwyk, M. Lee  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

**c. Review PARS Post-Employment Benefits Trust statements for February and March 2021.**

Director van Duinwyk provided a report regarding the PARS Post-Employment Benefits Trust statements for February and March 2021.

**4. Approval of Minutes of the April 12, 2021 Special Meeting.**

Motion to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2021 Special meeting made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Lee. The Roll Call vote was as follows:

Ayes: S. Easton, J. A. Powell, J. Ishkanian, P. van Duinwyk, M. Lee  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

**5. Approval of Minutes of the April 26, 2021 Regular Meeting.**

Motion to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2021 Regular meeting made by Director Easton, seconded by Director van Duinwyk. The Roll Call vote was as follows:

Ayes: J. A. Powell, S. Easton, J. Ishkanian, P. van Duinwyk, M. Lee

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

#### **6. Fire Chief's report.**

Division Chief Neels highlighted significant calls for the month of April. He stated the 10-week joint fire academy has been completed, and the graduation will be held today. Division Chief Neels stated that applications are being accepted for the rental property at 1259 East Valley Road. Fire Marshal Briner stated that notifications regarding weed abatement were sent to the community last week and the project will begin June 1<sup>st</sup>. He also provided an update regarding the Home Hardening Assistance Grant project. Chief Taylor stated that California is moving away from the blueprint system currently used for COVID-19 to a statewide system beginning June 15<sup>th</sup>. He stated that Santa Barbara is currently in the Orange Tier and will most likely remain there until June 15<sup>th</sup>. He stated that all indications are that beginning June 15<sup>th</sup>, essentially all COVID restrictions will be released, and the Board can expect to return to the fire station without social distancing at the table for the June Board of Directors meeting. He noted that it is unknown what guidance Cal/OSHA will release as it relates to workplace restrictions. Chief Taylor mentioned the following items to be presented at the June meeting: Continuation of the Preliminary Budget Approval, Fire Station Location Study (Montecito Fire Department's specific recommendations), the Intergovernmental Agreement with Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District, and the Cooperative Dispatch Agreement for the Regional Fire and EMS Dispatch Center. Chief Taylor mentioned the substantial uptick in the number of homeless encampment fires, and that the Department is working diligently with partners on the Southcoast to reduce the number of occurrences.

#### **7. Board of Director's report.**

There were no items to report at this meeting.

#### **8. Suggestions from Directors for items other than regular agenda items to be included for the June 28, 2021 Regular Board meeting.**

There were no additional suggestions from the Directors.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

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President Michael Lee

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Secretary Judith Ishkanian